

Windage

Benton Gun Club Newsletter

June 2009

Range and Match News

As of the June meeting, the start of work on range 4A was still delayed. Heavy rains have put the contractor way behind. It may have started by now. Please be aware that while the dirt work is going on all ranges will be closed during weekdays from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The ranges will be open on Saturday and Sunday. Always be sure to call the club information line at 315-3071 to get the status of the range before driving out. That's a long way to go and not be able to shoot.

In other news, the full set of high-power rifle silhouette target animals and spares have been purchased and received by the club. This purchase was approved at a previous club meeting.

Also, Pat Holsted reported that he has received a quote of \$4,795.00 to install a 10-foot high, 260-foot long fence on the west side of the shed on range 1. Alternate options and costs are still being investigated and will be presented at a future club meeting.

Finally, Pat Holsted made a motion to rescind a previous motion to transfer \$6,000.00 from the general fund to the maintenance fund to bring it up to \$15,000.00. There is \$15,000.00 in the maintenance fund already and the transfer is no longer required. This new motion was seconded and passed.

Work Day A Success

We held our most recent work day on Saturday, May 30. We had 30 to 40 people show up which was much appreciated. The range was cleaned up and all of the target boards were replaced.

Speaking of maintaining the range, please help police it. If you see someone leaving behind some trash, ask them politely to pick it up. Sometimes all it takes is a gentle nudge to help people remember that we are all responsible for the condition of our range.

Range property continues to be destroyed on all ranges. Club members are reminded that they are equal owners of club property, and this continued destruction is costing all club members. If you see someone destroying club property please get a license plate number and contact one of the club officers.

We are also looking for some young, strong maintenance people to help keep the range in shape. A lot of the folks who do the regular care of the range are getting older and they can't do all of this hard work forever. If you're interested in helping, please contact club president Paul Stiedle.

July 4th Family Event Planned

A motion by George Toney was approved at the May club meeting to host a family cookout event at the range on July 4th. This is a non-shooting event, and range 4 will be closed during the activities (from around noon until the early evening). You'll need to bring your own food and fireworks. We'll have more details on the website or in future issues of the newsletter.

Change Your Address? Let Us Know!

If you change your mailing address or your email address please let us know. The club secretary reports that a few 2009 renewals have been returned marked "Moved, no forwarding address." He's also noticed that some 2009 renewals have a different email address from the one we have on file. To ensure that you keep informed of club activities, please file a "change of

address" request with the post office when you move, and let us know when you get a new email address.

New Online Feature Offered

We now have another way for you to keep up with what's happening in the club. We've started a discussion group, hosted by Yahoo.com. It's free and it's easy. Just go to the club web site at bentongunclub.org, scroll to the bottom and look for the "Subscribe to Benton Gun Club Online" box. Then enter your email address and click on the "Join Now" button. That's all there is to it.

Youth Director Wanted

We are looking for a person (or persons) to plan and coordinate youth-focused shooting and training activities for the club. If you would like to volunteer, please contact one of the club officers.

Please Observe All Range Rules

Anyone observed violating the club range and safety rules is subject to dismissal from the club. New members, make sure that you know what type of firearm may be used on each range. If you don't know, read your bylaws.

Shotgun shooters on the shotgun range (range 7) should use #4 shot or smaller. Shotgun slugs and shot larger than #4 are absolutely against the rules on this range, but may be used on all other ranges with the exception of the silhouette range (range 2).

Someone has caused severe damage to some of the target board posts on the plinking range. Hidden, motion-sensitive security cameras have been installed to find out who is doing this. James Squires once again asks that shooters PLEASE stop shooting at the posts. If you need a practice target, contact James and he'll get you one.

We'd also like to remind club members not to move target stands closer to the sheds or pads. All target stands must be placed directly in front of a designated berm or backstop. Failure to comply with this rule, or any other range rule, may result in revocation of your membership.

New Members

We welcomed 10 new members at the June meeting. They are Jerry Brown, Ricky Brown, David Burson, Kenneth Fields, Charles Gentry, Gary Jackson, David Johnson, Don Kusenberger, Trevor Millette and Aaron Spann. Welcome to the club, folks!

If you are a new club member and a new member of the NRA, please send a copy of your membership card or the label from your NRA magazine to the club post office box. This will enable the club secretary to update the files with your NRA number and correct expiration date.

Please note that all new members must attend the mandatory range and safety orientation before using the

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Newsletter Editor: Craig Boyd. Send newsletter submissions and "for sale" notices to the club P. O. box.

www.bentongunclub.org

Range and Club Information Hotline..... 501-315-3071

Club Meetings

Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Econo Lodge in Benton (I-30 Exit 117).

Officers

President..... Paul Stiedle (517-0756)
Vice-President..... Pat Holsted (766-4942)
Secretary-Treasurer..... Rex Gismond / Bryan Hendricks
Range Maintenance Officer..... Bob Elrod (778-2165)
Range & Safety Orientation..... James Squires (847-2147)

range. You are not a fully qualified member until you attend the orientation. Also, don't forget that all new members are entitled to shoot in one club match per

shooting discipline free of charge. Look over that match schedule, and come out and experience the fun of competition shooting.

News from the NRA-ILA

The following items come from the NRA-ILA web page, www.nraila.org. Reprinted with permission.

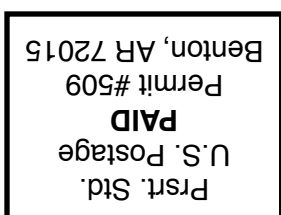
NRA Appeals Seventh Circuit Ruling to the U.S. Supreme Court

Fairfax, Va. – Today, the National Rifle Association filed a petition for certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *NRA v. Chicago*. The NRA strongly disagrees with yesterday's decision issued by a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, holding that the Second Amendment does not apply to state and local governments.

“The Seventh Circuit got it wrong. As the Supreme Court said in last year's landmark *Heller* decision, the Second Amendment is an individual right that ‘belongs to all Americans’. Therefore, we are taking our case to the highest court in the land,” said Chris W. Cox, NRA chief lobbyist. “The Seventh Circuit claimed it was bound by precedent from previous decisions. However, it should have followed the lead of the recent Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision in *Nordyke v. Alameda County*, which found that those cases don't prevent the Second Amendment from applying to the states through the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.”

This Seventh Circuit opinion upholds current bans on the possession of handguns in Chicago and Oak Park, Illinois.

“It is wrong that the residents of Chicago and Oak Park continue to have their Second Amendment rights denied,” Cox concluded. “It's time for the fundamental right of self-defense to be respected by every jurisdiction throughout our country.”



Benton Gun Club
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